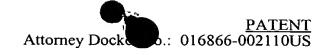
I hereby certify that this correspond being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class manner an envelope addressed to:



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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

3/14/01

OWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP

By: Jennifo K. Hardi

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HUTCHENS and YIP

Application No.: 09/745,388

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: RETENTATE

CHROMATOGRAPHY AND PROTEIN CHIP ARRAYS WITH APPLICATIONS

IN BIOLOGY

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

1641

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING AMENDMENT)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is in response to the Notice of Omitted Item(s) in a Nonprovisional Application mailed February 16, 2001. According to the Notice of Omitted Items, Figure 19D is described in the specification, but the drawing for Figure 19D has been omitted from the application as filed.

Applicants note that Figure 19D was filed with the rest of the application on December 21, 2000, but a figure label for Figure 19D was missing from the drawing. As shown in Figure 19 as filed, there are four separate boxes representing different mass spectra. The top three mass spectra are labeled as Figures 19A, 19B and 19C. However, for the mass spectra at the bottom of the page, label for Figure 19D was inadvertently omitted.

Accordingly, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the attached drawing by labeling the bottom mass spectra as Fig. 19D as shown in red ink on the attached copy of the drawing.

A